# September 1968 No.6 Price 2/6

The Magazine of the Institute of Contemporary Arts

# SERENDIPITY

R

mple

Is everything or anything here art and if not, why not? We all benefit by asking ourselves this kind of question, MR and no more enjoyable way of provoking it can be imagined than an hour in this intriguing lively and thought-provoking show. Nigel Gosling, The Observer

porary ATD magazine. First I thought to of the exhibition, or a cartoon making thing that occured Anyone unable to visit the other exhibition, or driven prematurely ords or away from it by some of the nosier Vipually But as unique show of fresh ideas about trends

there

involved in contemporary art-making,

Daily Telegraph

this is a stimulating

exhibition for everyone.

pieces on display, would do well to get the 25s catalogue and information conspectus of the

exhibition and its technical and theoretical background.

The Times Literary Supplement

en hundered press invitations were sent out, three thousand people computer may

uch to enlarge private views. art as to ly our knowledge

rt.

This is an exhibition with a rson, Art and Artists tremendously interesting theme. hand I had Guy Brett, The Times

go on with. So what I have

It is, therefore, a huge pleasure to report that the big machine exhibition at the ICA, Cybernetic Serendipity - is a complete success and well worth its three years planning by Jasia Reichardt. The show provides information which we need, succinctly and entertainingly. Bryan Robertson, Spectator

An international axhibition exploring and demonstrating relationships between technology and creativity.

The idea behind this venture is to show creative forms engendered by technology. To present an area of activity which manifests artists' involvement with science, and the scientists' involvement with the arts. To show the links between the random systems employed by artists, composers, and poets, and those involved in the use of cybernetic devices.

The exhibition is divided into three sections:

- 1. Computer generated graphics, computer animated films, computer composed and played music, and computer verse and texts.
- 2. Cybernetic devices as works of art, cybernetic environments, remote control robots, and painting machines.
- 3. Machines demonstrating the uses of computers and an environment dealing with the history of cybernetics.

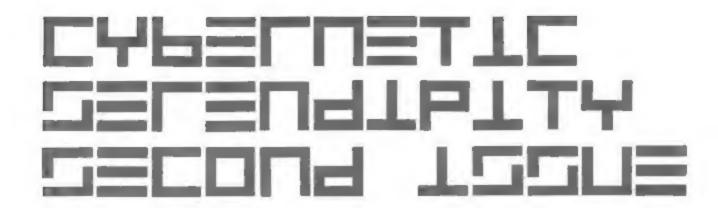
There will be lectures on Tuesdays and Thursdays relating to the theme of the exhibition.

There will also be film shows of films either made with the aid of computers or dealing with the relevance of computer technology to the humanities. the arts, and communications generally.

During the course of the Cybernetic Serendipity exhibition the opening hours will be as follows:

Tueedays, Thursdays, Saturdays 11-6 Wednesdays, Fridays 11-9 Sundays 2-6 Mondays closed

Admission 8/-ICA members 4/-Children free (special terms for school parties by arrangement with Leslie Stack) Admission to films in the cinema 2/6



This typeface which avoids curves and diagonals was developed by Epps and Evans at the National Physical Laboratory (Division of Computer Science) and is used for machine recognition.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS Nash House The Mall London S.W.I

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Director
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Sir Roland Penrose Michael Kustow Dorothy Morland Julie Lawson Jasia Reichardt

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#### TRIBUTES TO MERBERT READ

Change of date.
An evening at the ICA devoted to tributes to our late President, Sir Herbert Read, will be held on November 28th, and not on October 24th as announced in the August magazine.

EXHIBITION OF BRITISH PAINTERS at Macys, New York September 3 - 21

Macys of New York has invited the ICA to organise an exhibition of yourn British artists in their gallery to coincide with the Festival of Britain. The following artists will be shown: Peter Blake, Patrick Caulfield, David Hockney, John Hoyland, Paul Huxley, Allen Jones, Mark Lancaster, David Leverett, Patrick Procktor, Pater Phillips, Peter Sadgley, Richard Smith, Michael Vaughen, John Walker, David Oxtoby.

The exhibition has been organised by Mario Amaya and will be officially opened by Sir Roland Penrose on 3rd September.

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September lectures at the ICA 30



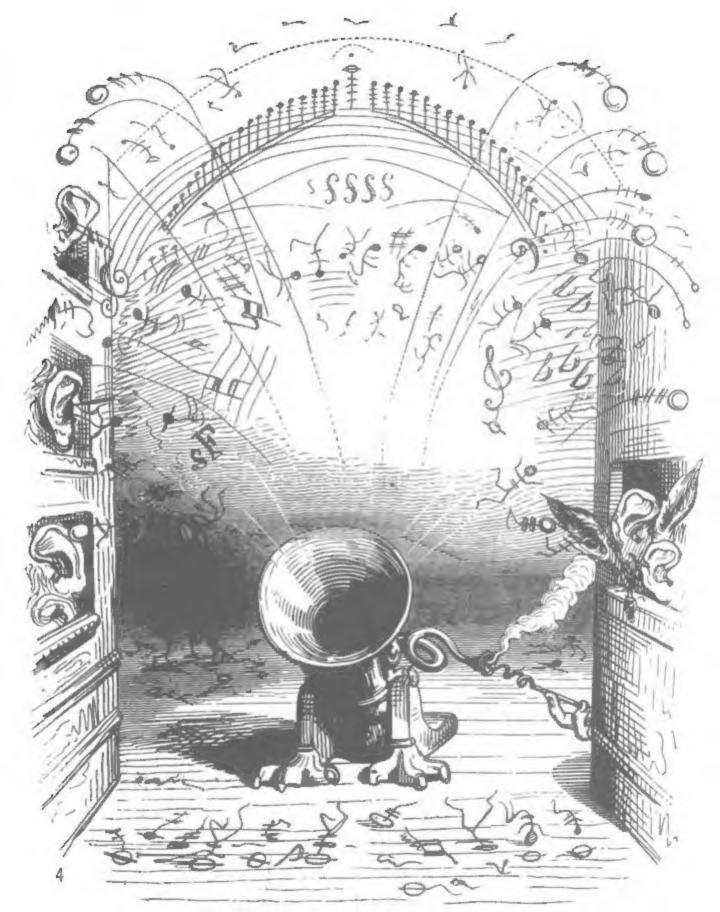
MAN-MACHINE SYMBIOSIS

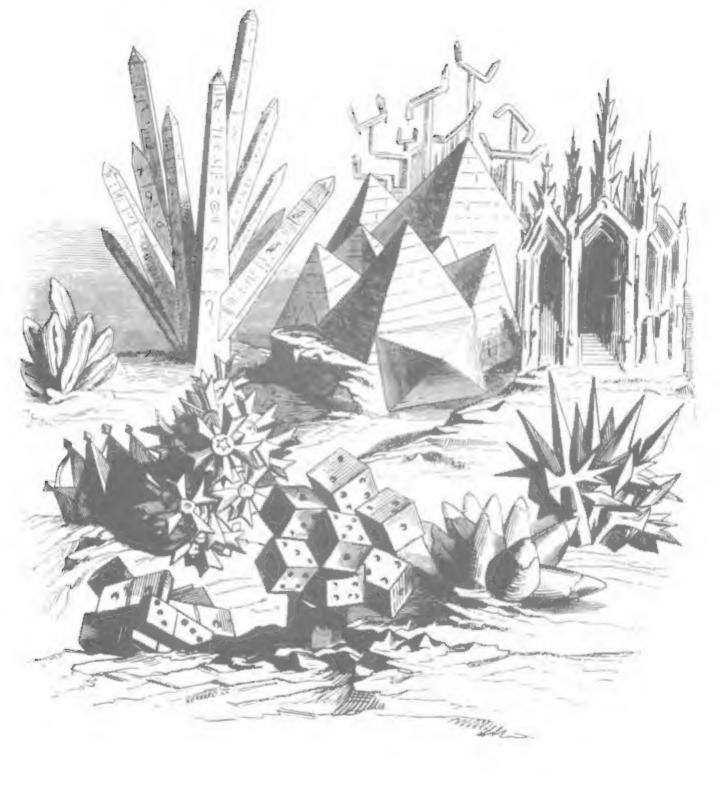
Humanizing machines and mechanizing humans are cross trends that are sure to occur in the future, but the extent to which man and machine will be united is uncertain. Computers exist which can learn, remember, see, seak goals, reason, walk, sing on key, talk, be irritable, play games, greep, adapt to an environment and even design improvements in themselves. While artificial organs made possible by miniature electronic components are being used in the human body, man-like computers may one day contain plasma circulating through a viacera-like envelope, allowing them to be self-healing. Direct man-machine communication is also being explored for the transfer of thoughts instead of words.

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The Magazine of the Institute of Contemporary Arts No.6, September 1968

This issue edited by Jasia Reichardt Designed by Ann Hildred Cover by Norman Toynton Printed by Oval Press





THE LAW by Robert M. Coates

(The law of everages applies to all randomly moving objects whether in kinetic theory or in city traffic. This story from The New Yorker magazine raises in fictional form the question of the meaning of a statistical law.)

The first intimation that things were getting out of hand came one early-fall evening in the late nineteen-forties. What happened, simply, was that between seven and nine o'clock on that evening the Triborough Bridge had the heaviest concentration of outbound traffic in its entire history.

This was odd, for it was a weekday evening (to be precise, a Wednesday), and though the weather was agreeably mild and clear, with a moon that was close enough to being full to lure a certain number of motorists out of the city, these facts alone were not enough to explain the phenomenon. No other bridge or main highway was affected, and though the two preceding nights had been equally balmy and moonlit, on both of these the bridge traffic had run close to normal.

The bridge personnel, at mny rate, was caught entirely unprepared. A main artery of traffic, like the Triborough, operates under fairly predictable conditions. Motor travel, like most other large-scale human activities, obeys the Law of Averages - that great, ancient rule that states that the actions of people in the mass will always follow consistent patterns - and on the basis of past experience it had always been possible to foretell, almost to the last digit, the number of cars that would cross the bridge at any given hour of the day or night. In this case, though, all rules were broken.

The hours from seven till nearly midnight are normally quiet ones on the bridge. But on that night it was as if all the motorists in the city, or at any rate a staggering proportion of them, had conspired together to upset tradition. Beginning almost exactly at seven o'clock, cars poured onto the bridge in such numbers and with such rapidity that the staff at the toll booths was overwhelmed almost from the start. It was soon apparent that this was no momentary congestion, and as it became more and more obvious that the traffic jam promised to be one of truly monumental proportion, added details of police were rushed to the scene to help handle it.

Cars streamed in from all directions - from the Bronx approach and the Manhattan one, from 125th Street and

the East River Drive. (At the peak of the crush, about eight-fifteen, observers on the bridge reported that the drive was solid line of car headlights as far south as the bend at Eighty-ninth Street, while the congestion crosstown in Manhattan disrupted traffic as far west as Amsterdam Avenue.) And perhaps the most confusing thing about the whole manifestation was that there seemed to be no reason for it.

Now and then, as the harried toll-booth attendants made change for the seemingly endless stream of cars, they would question the occupants, and it soon became clear that the very participants in the monstrous tieup were as ignorant of its cause as anyone else was. report made by Sergeant Alfonse O'Toole, who commanded the detail in charge of the Bronx approach, is typical. "I kept askin' them," he said, "'Is there night football somewhere that we don't know about? Is it the races you're goin! to?! But the funny thing was half the time they'd be askin' me. 'What's the groud for, Mac?' they would say. And I'd just look at them. There was one guy I mind, in a Ford convertible with a girl in the seat beside him, and when he asked me, I said to him, 'Hell, you're in the crowd, ain't you?' I said. 'What brings you here?' And the dummy just looked at me. says. 'I just come out for a drive in the moonlight. But if I'd known there'd be a crowd like this...' he says. And then he asks me, 'Is there any place I can turn around and get out of this? " As the Herald Tribune summed things up in its story next morning, it "just looked as if everybody in Manhattan who owned a motorcar had decided to drive out on Long Island that evening."

The incident was unusual enough to make all the front pages next morning, and because of this, many similar events, which might otherwise have gone unnoticed, received attention. The proprietor of the Aramis Theatre, on Eighth Avenue, reported that on several nights in the recent past his auditorium had been practically empty. while on others it had been jammed to suffocation. Lunchroom owners noted that increasingly their patrons were developing a habit of making runs on specific items; one day it would be the roast shoulder of weal with pan gravy that was ordered almost exclusively, while the next everyone would be taking the Vienna loaf, and the roast veal went begging. A man who ran a small notions store in Bayside revealed that over a period of four days two hundred and seventy-four successive customers had entered his shop and asked for a spool of pink thread.

These were news items that would ordinarily have gone into the papers as fillers or in the sections reserved ? for oddities. Now, however, they seemed to have a more serious significance. It was apparent at last that something decidedly strange was happening to people's habits, and it was as unsettling as those occasional moments on excursion boats when the passengers are moved, all at once, to rush to one side or the other of the vessel. It was not till one day in December when, almost incredibly, the Twentieth Century Limited left New York for Chicago with just three passengers aboard that business leaders discovered how disastrous the new trend could be, too.

Until then, the New York Central, for instance, could operate confidently on the assumption that although there might be several thousand men in New York who had business relations in Chicago, on any single day no more — and no less — then some hundreds of them would have occasion to go there. The play producer could be sure that his patronage would sort itself out and that roughly as many persons would want to see the performance on Thursday as there had been on Tuesday or Wednesday. Now they couldn't be sure of anything. The Law of Averages had gone by the board, and if the effect on business promised to be catastrophic, it was also singularly unnerving for the general customer.

The lady starting downtown for a day of shopping, for example, could never be sure whether she would find Macy's department store a seething mob of other shoppers or a wilderness of empty, echoing aisles and unoccupied salesgirls. And the uncertainty produced a strange sort of jitteriness in the individual when faced with any impulse to action. "Shall we do it or shan't we?" people kept asking themselves, knowing that if they did do it, it might turn out that thousands of other individuals had decided similarly; knowing, too, that if they didn't, they might miss the one glorious chance of all chances to have Jones Beach, say, practically to themselves. Business languished, and a sort of desperate uncertainty rode everyone.

At this juncture, it was inevitable that Congress should be called on for action. In fact, Congress called on itself, and it must be said that it rose nobly to the occasion. A committee was appointed, drawn from both Houses and headed by Senator J. Wing Slooper (R.) of Indiana, and though after considerable investigation the committee was forced reluctantly to conclude that there was no evidence of Communist instigation, the unconscious subversiveness of the people's present conduct was obvious at a glance. The problem was what to do about it. You can't indict a whole nation, perticularly on such vague grounds as these were. But, as Senator Slooper boldly

printed out, "You can control it," and in the end a

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[pryrapht -947 The 'ear yorker Magazine, Inc.

ORAMICS by Daphne Oram

(It has not been possible to transport Daphne Oram).
Oram.cs - Graph c Sound Eq. phent - to the Cybernet.
Serend.p.ty (xt b 1.on, so as have in ited her to
contribute this illustrated article.)

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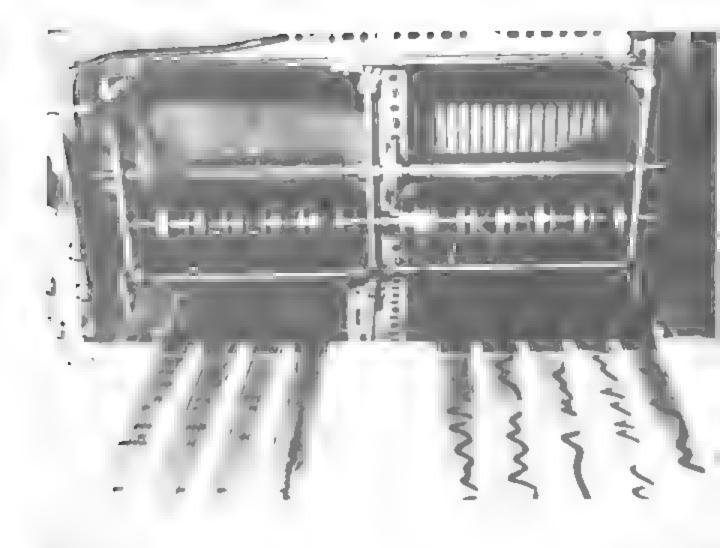
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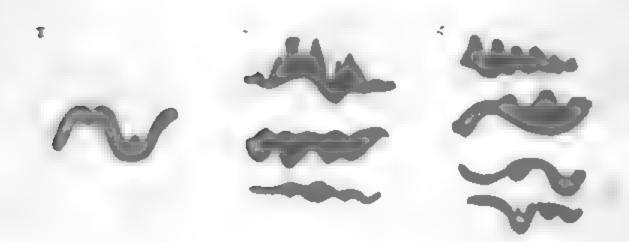
haps Tristrem Cary and the Electronic Music Review would allow Oramics to adopt this apt and fervent prover that a continue (a, imphories to read for Recalcition Holes and all Ye Assembled Wand Gates Keep Your Appointed Places - under my thumb'.

11



Programm ng 🐔





#### GENERATIVE AESTHETICS PROJECTS by Max Bense

B, Generative Assistantics, we inderested all the operations.

Lies and theorems is in. If applied to an unordered set of materia. elements, can profice sesthetic situations in this sense Generative Asistantics of an analogue of Generative Grammer, the first bound of grammar.

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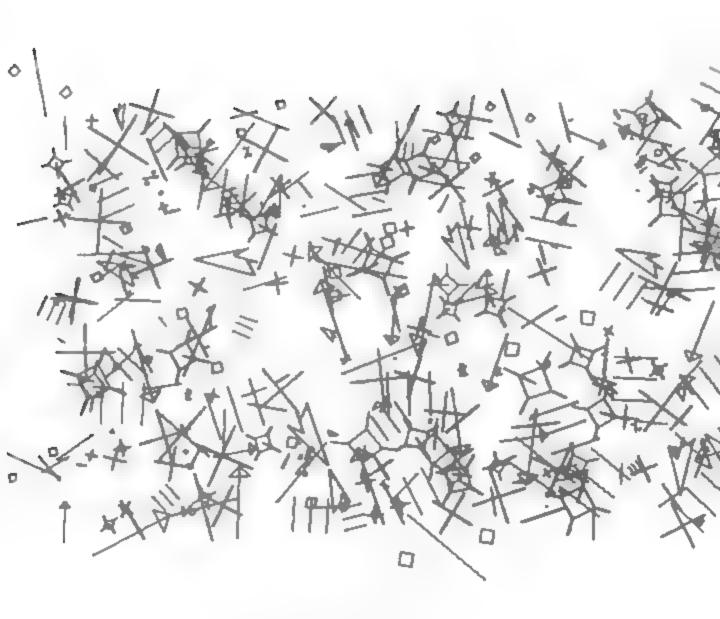
weathet factors of Generative Aesthetics.

THE THE THE THE A T by Petar Milojevic Feta \* o e c -L er IE 30 McGr right rinch that a given .m. te. 'C 'te p ' - e .ec + 1 with in this stierns wete procesand with Calcomp 565 plotter.) Art t sinre tere of a company The company of the co Art is a feeling like love and hunger, unidentified by -----\_\_\_\_\_ frar . . . the public inevitably leaves a gap. 195 Je 77 79 to or a comment within the same terms. Do we know what 'Computer - Art' is? Computer-Art is a convenient word for combining two rag et 4 71 ° 1 place between the artist and critic. , -, -The ertist, together with the computer as a performer could accomplish very distinguished results. the second second n e : f 1 t = . their environment in many ways which are new. Computer revolution is a revolution of re-examination. In art we are already asking, what is art? Could we the court and the court of the or and the gant / gart + and a same a Fig. D. Co. the use of compute

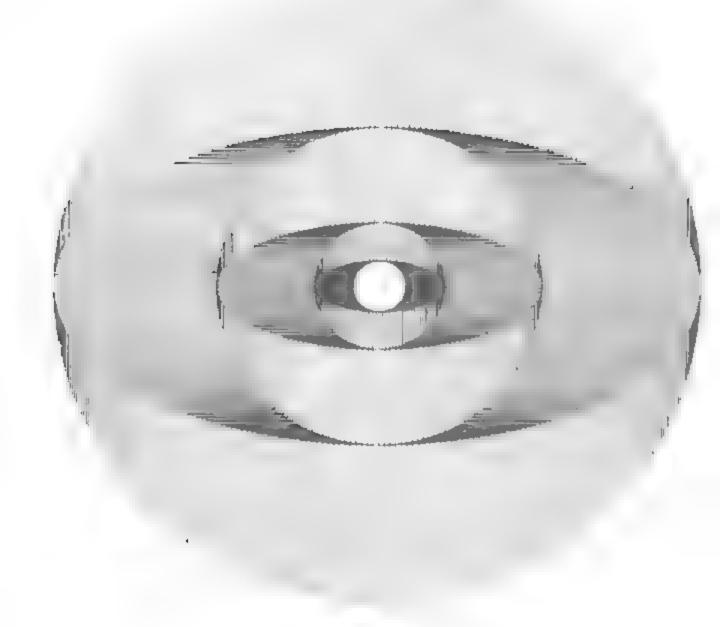
is in its primitive period. There is a chance that it

#### ta la Fili y Filha fore

Renaissance, Baroque and
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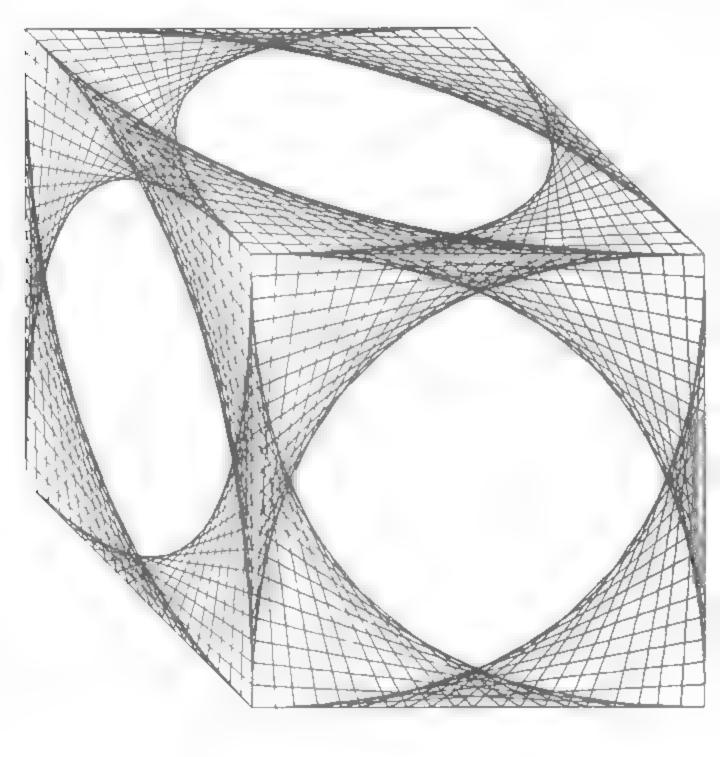


PETAR MILOJEVIC: Shattered glass selected symbols drawn at random



PETAR MINUJEVIC: Ellipses and Circles

processed on the IBM 7044, and it was drawn or a Calcomp 565 plotter.



### PETAR MILOJEVIC: Cubic Figure

These figures were obtained by connecting certain points on the sides of a cube, with the positions of the lines changed by translation or rotation. Drawn by Calcomp 565 plotter.

EXPANDED EDUCATION FOR THE PAPER-LESS SDCIETY

by.

Nam June Paik

my tenure at Stony Brook, on a Rockefeller grant.

#### 1. Instant Global University

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11 E 122

Auto of the sould they do this?

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anywhere to anywhere. For instance, twanty different music students at an American university could study furt there is the second study of the second study there is an area of the second study the second students at an area of the second students at an area of the second students at a second students

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late-late show movie and Hitler news reel was filmed.

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terbhique is not only unnacessary, but may be harmful for these autjects.

The western music as a whole can be grasped as a many the impact of the video tape recorder cannot be over-

accompanying video pact:

(a) Serial and electronic music

technical information of electronic sounds. In some score very hard, and this 'paper music' requires is impossible.

(b) Music graphic

In this other kind of 'paper music', sound and notation are far apart so that the imaginary double

listener should know, for instance, that Tudor pushthe middle C for an apple figure in Cage's pieno

ests a nut for the same symbol. This fetishism of

Fortran block diagram and is a stylistic criterion of the 20th century culture. Following the score in

way to deterministic music.

(c) Event and action music

Often there is no way to make music notation except by recording the whole performance. Stockhausen and Ligeti suggested a film of my action music pieces (1959-61) to be used as a score, which I rejected for a philosophical reason. However, for many music events such as those by Brecht, Chiari, Christiansen, Hidalgo, Kosugi, Moore, Patterson, Schabel, Shiomi, Tone, Welin, Young, video tape will be a well-supplement for their sketchy instructions.

21

A. Most singing students finish their full college

1. If a charge a charge a charge they studied so painstakingly. This kind of helf

1. If a charge a charge art and of the opera should not be reserved only for the most

1. If a charge a charge a charge and of the charge and of the charge and of the charge and the char

#### e.g. Le Traviata:

thing but the soprano part, and used for the soprano part rehearsal.

2nd film is made likewise without the tenor part and used for the tenor part rehearsal.

3rd film - likewise without the baritone part.

4th film - likewise without the base part.

The film can be projected onto four walls simultaneously to facilitate the acting lesson.

nta. 'es y prover wirk e in the

e.g. Macbeth without Lady Macbeth

Hamlet without Hamlet

Romes without Juliet

Olivier's Hamlet via the screen.

one instrument would cut out the rehearsal time and as a the traffic jam - slightly.

1. It is often said that in the big university the formation of the said that in the big university the formation of the said of the said

6. French, German, Italian, Spanish, Russian, (threse and Japanese Tu should be should constantly in the student yauted no places. It helps language study is thought a aim is teepens globel consciousness, again the lastant gives. In Jersity, and heips the study of journalish, point call science, acts, economics, etc.

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Eage), and we will have one more now.

\* at, b.\* not imast, I was happy with and \*activities opinion, that my exected is solded. To experiments have instructional resource value.

noter: of playabilities can be a sembled to a romin and two be distributed to kinder after of elementar, school. Its educational effects:

- (a) Children are exposed to electronic situations very early.
- physics and electronics concretely, such as amplitude notation, talar, scanning, cathode ray, shadow mask tube, oscilloscope, ohmis law, overtone, magnetic character, etc. and it is a very pleasant way to learn these important facts
- (c It gives the possibilities of e = It is better than the light pen because my way is multi-coloured and it provides much interaction 23 with the air programma.

- (d) Since my colour TV is the unusual, unorthodox application of an every day commodity, this stimulates the kids to more original, less prejudiced thinking.
- 9. There is often a complaint made that a big microphone class kills the personality of the teacher, but this technique can be used in such a way that it not only amplifies the voice of the teacher, but also amplifies his whole personality. John Brockman Associates Inc. and USCO used mix media techniques in the promotion of Scott Paper Company, with great success. It should also be tried in education.
- .O. How to prevent a slum k.d, who would knock down even a teacher, from breaking an expensive teaching console?

(that is, a highly versatile input-output unit).

ing white. But if Computer Assisted Instruction proves to be economical and if it were to be apread to mass

deavour), than how would the console replace the

teacher's personality, especially to small children and unmotivated and less privileged kids from bad

ectually as important as the so-called central proc

which does not agree with the computer's answer? Just to darde artist should be mobilised and put to work.

Allan Kaprow is preaching, and has been for the last five years, to stone ears. Significantly enough, the President of Xerox announced a parallel opinion.

and profit was made in the hardware section (that is

will be more competitive with ISM. The artist is

electronic devices to wake up, stroboscopic light,

direct influence of prain waves, wind light-tactile devices, certain no se-refrigerator devices, etc., can be added, plus an electro sleep generator, to put a girl with insomnia to sound sleep. Serge Booterline of Inter-Action Inc. is experimenting with several interesting devices in relation to this imput-output problem. In teaching, even a robot should be considered for first and second grade children.

Vam June Paik February 1968 New York



considered alternative courses of action, they then, sometimes, select or choose one of these

by Le Corbusier in Le Modulor

#### apposite page

top left Yet sometimes, a few times only in a man's lifthers comes through the chaos of his sensations something that has a special quality.

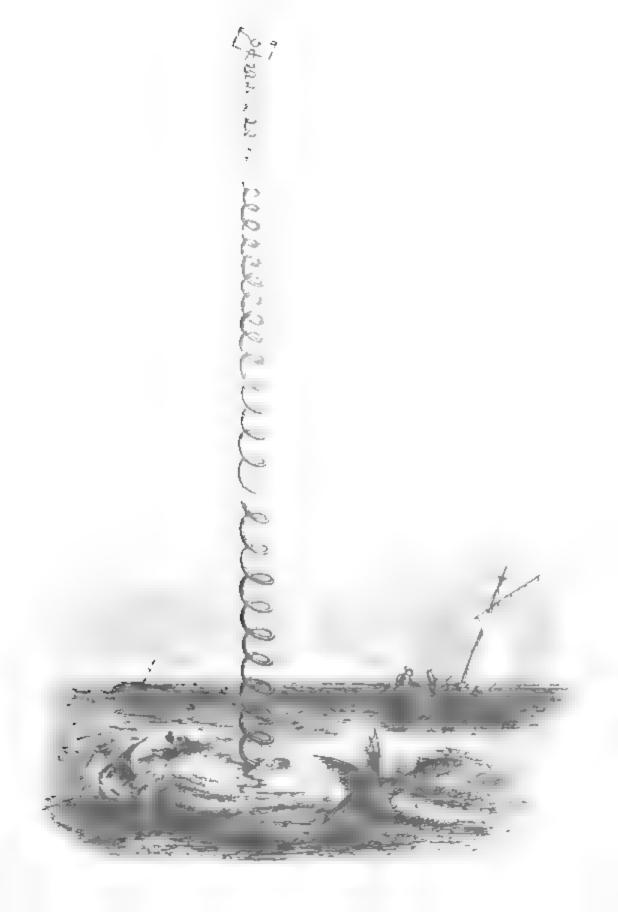
Denis Saurat, 'Modern French Literature'

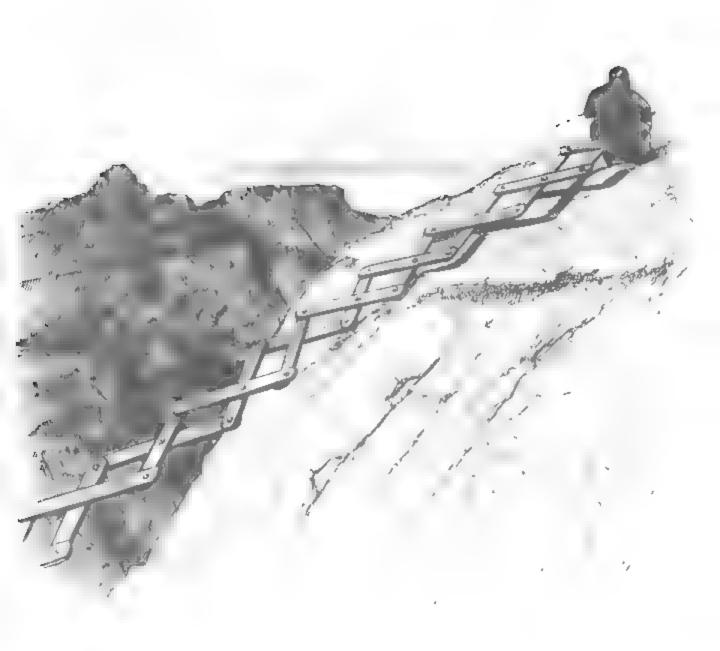
top right L'homme t la soule créature de la terre qui eit le volonté de regarder à l'intérieur d'une quoted by Gaston Bachelard in La Terre et les Reveries du Repos

éprouvé dans ma vie. Cette qualité inconnue d'un monde unique. Marcel Prouet, 'A le recherche du temps perdu'.

the sense that he does it on purpose or is trying to do it, his action certainly reflects some quality or qualities of mind, since (it is more than a verbal point to say) he is in some degree and in one fashion or another minding what he is doing. Gilbert Ryle, 'The Concept of Mind'

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#### SEPTEMBER LECTURES AT THE ICA

Tuesday September 3rd at 8pm

Rex Malik TOMORROW IS ALREADY HERE

artist.

#### Thursday September 5th at 8pm

Professor M.W. Thring ROBOTS IN THE SERVICE OF MAN

'e engineer his tele cell machines that can give e.e.'

Ine in the print at adentife standard of living to a

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down this enably more. These manhines have been as jely

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his lectures and essays on the subject.
Tuesday September 10th at 6pm
Dr. Gordon Pask
COMMENT ON JOY AND INNOVATION
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the rejet was the following to make the soft of the so

to creativity.

#### Thursday September 12th at 6pm

Tannis Xerakis
LNIVERSAL CONSTANCY IN MUSIC AND ITS FORMALISATION

Xerakıs will talk about his work.

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He sett ed in fig.

The te herums Are to reference of lat small as and suspended August at the Joint and Tolerate of Indiana.

STRATEGYE - A GAME F.O T C (HOHECTHA) 14 1 by Iannia Xenakis

#### Instruments:

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The six fundamental 'tactics' are.

- wind instruments
- normal percussion
- 3. backs of the stronged instrument, ctruck ... hit e hand
- 4. plucking of the atrings
- 5. glissandi of strings
- austained atring harmonics

The list of 13 possible similareous combinet.5 a of the basic 'tectios' for each increase is a factors

32

There are, therefore, 19 'tactice' in all which each the same of the same of the the combinations simultaneously.

negative number which, when added up, comprise the notice of the table is called the 'Matrix of the Came'.

### STRATEGIE

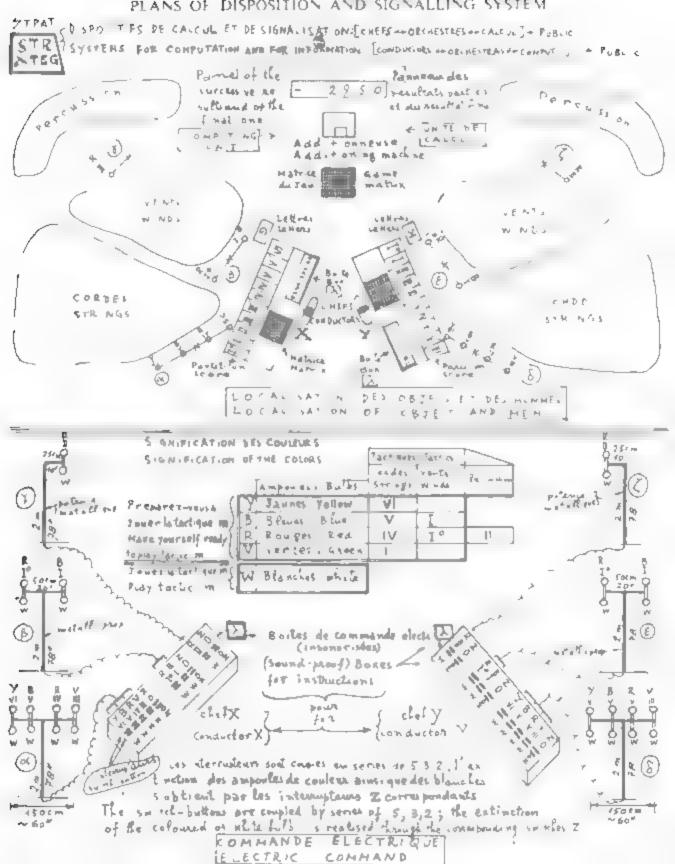
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### STRATEGIE

#### PLANS OF DISPOSITION AND SIGNALLING SYSTEM



Thursday September 19th at 8pm

Reverend A.Q. Morton
THE COMPLIER AS AN AID TO LITERARY STUDIES

how the machine reads literature and how it makes all

kinds of indexes and word lists. Then it describes these lists, even how one can check if Aristotle really

'My cleam to fame in this field' - writes Morton - 'is that I was the first to use the computer on literary used marks before this, let X equal one word, but I o print of the actual texts. Especially for Greek.'

e

investigation of the Homeric poems.

Tuesday September 24th at 8pm

Pietro Grossi THE COMPUTER IN MUSIC

to to the second of the second

Thursday September 26th at 8 pm

Professor Abraham Moles
THE SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF ART WITH COMPUTERS



creative activity.

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s salection of books from the 'world of est library' clothbound 35s, paperback 21s

henry moore: a study of his life and work

The definitive statement Sunday Times 284 pages with 16 colour plates, 229 black and white plates

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t is difficult indeed to imagine a more profound or sympathetic interpreter Scotsman

A plain-spoken account, warmed by human sympathy the balance of Hepworth's achievement is delicately adjusted. Sunday Times. 216 pages with 18 colour plates. 154 black and white plates.

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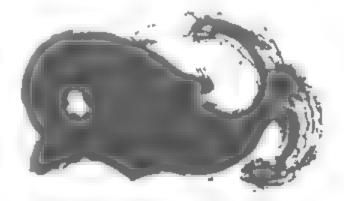
BARBARA ROSE

'A cool sensible and extremely useful critical history of modern American art' The Times. 320 pages with 105 colour plates. 250 black and white plates.

#### matisse

JEAN GU CHARD MÉ L

A factual and clear account of Matisse's afe and development — quotes freely from the painter's own comments, which were a ways a model of clarity and good sense. The Artist. 256 pages with 40 colour plates, 160 black and white plates.



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Richard Robbins

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10-6 daily (incl. Saturdays

and Sundays) closed Mondays

DRIAN GALLERIES 5-7 Porchester Place, U.2. 723-9473

John Cavies, sculpture Susanne Levy, paintings until September 13

Rudolf Scheurer, sculpture Adele White, paintings September 17 - October 4 GROSVENOR GALLERY 30 Davies Street, W.1. 629-089:

20th c. Painting and Sculpture Part 2: Appel, Baj, Burliuk, Cascella, Consagare, Cremonini Guttueo, Hartung, Hepworth, Liesitzky, Maholy-Nagy, Music, Permeke, Rabin, Sironi, Tobey, August 78 - September 21

GIMPEL FILS 50 South Molton Street, W.1. 493-2488

Robert Adams - sculpture September 5 - 28 HANOVER GALLERY
32e St. Georges Street, ψ.1.
629-0276

Sculpture and drawings September

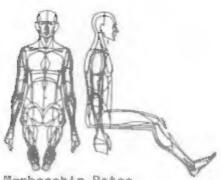
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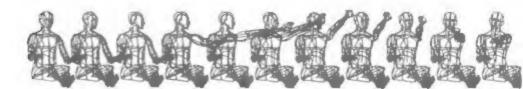
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## Arts Council Exhibitions

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Inaugural Exhibition
MATISSE
Closing September 8
Weekdays 10.30-7 Sundays 10-6
Admission 5/-

EMIL NOLDE 1867-1956
Watercolours from the Nolde Foundation, Seebull
September 27 - October 27
Weekdays 10.30-7 Sundays 2-6
Admission 5/-

TATE GALLERY Millbank

HENRY MOORE

70th Birthday Retrospective Exhibition
Closing September 22
Weekdays 10-6 (Tuesdays and Thursdays 10-8)
Sundays 2-6
Admission 5/-

ROYAL ACADEMCY OF ARTS

AMERICAN NAIVE PAINTING September 6 - October 20 Weekdays 10-6 (Thursdays 10-8) Sundays 2-6 Admission 5/-



'Cybernetic Serendipity' provokes, in its implications, it is as different from an every day 'art exhibition' as a major operation from a manicure... it is an experience which no one should miss. John Russell, The Sunday Times

## CYBERNETIC

The winking lights
the flickering television screens .
and the squawks from the music machines
are signalling the end of abstract art;
When machines can do it,
it will not be worth doing Robert Melville.New Statesman

I could do a drawing depicting prome whimsical comment. A Joyous exhibition. It to me was to describe in It demonstrates that art can live with modern science. I some of the things that Daily Mirror in the organizing of this exhibition. For exwere some three hundered and twenty

persons involved to make this show

Where in London could you take a hippy a computer programmer a ten-year-old schoolboy and guarantee that each would be perfectly happy for an hour without you having to lift a finger to entertain them. From today, there is just one such place - The Institute of Contemporary Arts. The Evening Standard

gasia Reichardt asker Norman to design the cove Institute of Conter drawing depicting pr

With this information were than enough to decided to do

The Industrial revolution produced the machine age, with the computer comes machine age art. The Evening News